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her statesmen hoped this alliance with England would weaken the France-Russian agreement. Although Alsace-Lorraine presented a "stumbling block," Sir Thomas thought there was no need of a "Revanche"—for France revenged 1870 in Morocco.

M. T. MURRAY.

*The Immediate Cause of the Great War.* By OLIVER PERRY CHITWOOD. New York, Thomas Crowell Company, 1918. 270 pp.

This book is divided into three parts. The first, entitled "Some direct Causes of the War," traces historically the formation of the two rival groups in Europe after the Congress of Vienna; the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente. Before 1914 this grouping is noticed in nearly every conflicting question, such as the Morocco dispute, and the Balkan problem. The second part traces the immediate causes of the European War, and is based upon the documents and newspapers accessible at the time the book was published. A clearly drawn picture is given of the diplomatic inter-relationships of the various states in Europe and Asia. The third and last division of the book deals with the reasons for America's entrance into the war. Here the submarine controversy is fully traced.

By no means is this an exhaustive treatment of the causes of the war; it is rather a résumé of the most important facts. The material is well chosen and well organized, and the book will serve as the best of outlines for the study of the detailed accounts which are flooding the markets.

M. T. M.

*The Early Diplomatic Relations between the United States and Japan, 1853-1865.* By PAYSON JACKSON TREAT. The Johns Hopkins Press, 1917. 459 pp.

A collection of Albert Shaw Lectures delivered by Professor Treat at Johns Hopkins University and published under the direction of Prof. John H. Latané. The account begins with Commodore Perry's opening of the ports of Japan, which for more than two centuries had been closed to all foreign intercourse except for a limited commerce with Holland and China at Nagasaki. Professor Treat declares that "if religious propaganda could have been divorced from commercial intercourse, the doors of Japan might never have been closed."

A detailed account is given of the establishment of friendly relationships between Japan and the United States under the excellent direction of Mathew Calbraith Perry, Townsend Harris,

and Robert H. Pruyn, which culminated in the ratification of the commercial treaty of 1858 by the mikado.

Throughout we have a view of Japanese politics with interesting incidents of diplomacy, showing that the Japanese government was always handicapped by the domestic troubles resulting from conflicting factions within the empire.

The work of these "three worthy representatives of their nation" and the return of the Shimonoseki indemnity to Japan by the United States in 1883, laid the foundation of the "traditional" friendship between America and Japan. M. T. M.

*The United States in the World War.* By JOHN BACH McMASTER.  
New York, London, D. Appleton and Company, 1918.  
485 pp.

In this book we see the master hand once again in the use of newspaper material and state documents. As in his history Professor McMaster here follows a chronological order in presenting his facts. The development of events is traced from the beginning of the struggle in Europe to the end of our first year of war (1914-1918). Each event is stated in its chronological order; the diplomatic negotiations relative to it are given, and the sentiment of the people of the countries concerned is shown from newspapers and other contemporary writings. Without attempting to prove any thesis, McMaster has yet made it easy to trace the gradual change of sentiment in the United States away from Germany and in favor of France and England. Pro-German propaganda and German intrigue in the United States are dealt with at great length as well as the American government's plans for counteracting these treacherous acts when found among German agents and German officials. The author presents the question of neutral trade and of submarine warfare in an interesting way by giving first the actual events, then a summary of the diplomatic correspondence and the newspaper comments. This volume is undoubtedly one of the few really valuable works among the many hundreds which have appeared upon the war.

M. T. M.

*Bolshevism. The Enemy of Political and Industrial Democracy.*  
By JOHN SPARGO. Harper and Bros., Publishers. New York  
and London, 1919. 389 pp.

This book gives a plain and understandable outline of the origin, history and meaning of Bolshevism. It is an attempt